



Safeguarding Newsletter- September 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

The information below is designed to familiarise you with the most recent safeguarding concerns that are being faced by all schools. South Dartmoor is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we will continue to provide materials for parents and guardians outlining how schools, the Health Service, Police, Social Care and parents can work together to keep children safe. It is key to remember that safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.

All of the College's updated safeguarding policies and procedures are available on the Child Protection and Safeguarding section of the College website, and we encourage all parents to view these documents to get an understanding of how South Dartmoor continues to keep children safe. The information placed on the website has recently been updated to include our new counselling policy. I would encourage parents and guardians to view this information, as many of our young people access this fantastic service at the College.

<http://www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk/policies/child-protection-and-safeguarding/>

The counselling team (from left to right)

Luan Knott, Sally Woodhouse and Cath Edwards



We would advise all parents and carers to read the new Child Protection and Safeguarding policy 2017 and the September 2016 Keeping Children Safe in Education document. Please use the link above to access the College's new policies.

Our Child Protection and safeguarding policy now includes the recent Devon Safeguarding Board updates in regards to the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Missing and Child Sexual Exploitation and Youth Produced sexual Imagery.

National Headlines – Counter terrorism education



South Dartmoor Community College

Head of School | Paul Collins

Balland Lane, Ashburton, Devon, TQ13 7EW
Tel | (01364) 652230 Fax | (01364) 654069
Website | www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk
Email | enquiries@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk

Firearms or weapons attacks are thankfully rare in Devon, however, in the unlikely event of a terrorist attack, being prepared and knowing how to respond is really important and may save lives.

Attacks in the UK and abroad remind us all of the terrorist threats we face. Police and security agencies are working tirelessly to protect the public but it is also important that communities remain vigilant and aware of how to protect themselves if the need arises.

On 28 September 2017, 'Act For Youth campaign' launches in partnership with News UK, designed to help educate 11 to 16 year olds on how to stay safe in the event of a firearms or weapon attack. Key advice is to follow 'Run, Hide, and Tell' guidance until Police arrive on the scene, but research shows that this messaging is not always effectively reaching younger audiences.

Counter Terrorism Policing and celebrity influencers, including Bear Grylls, have been participating in activities across the country as part of the campaign launch to raise awareness amongst young people about how to stay safe.

I would encourage all parents and guardians to read through the guidance with their sons and daughters.

RUN

- Escape if you can
- Consider the safest options
- Is there a safe route? RUN, if not, HIDE
- Can you get there without exposing yourself to greater danger?
- Insist others leave with you
- Leave belongings behind

HIDE

- If you cannot RUN, HIDE
- Find cover from gunfire
- If you can see the attacker, they may be able to see you
- Cover from view does not mean you are safe, bullets go through glass, brick, wood and metal
- Find cover from gunfire e.g. substantial brickwork / heavy reinforced walls
- Be aware of your exits
- Try not to get trapped
- Be quiet, silence your phone and turn off vibrate
- Lock / barricade yourself in
- Move away from the door

TELL



Call 999 - What do the police need to know? If you cannot speak or make a noise listen to the instructions given to you by the call taker

- Location - Where are the suspects?
- Direction - Where did you last see the suspects?
- Descriptions – Describe the attacker, numbers, features, clothing, weapons etc.
- Further information – Casualties, type of injury, building information, entrances, exits, hostages etc.
- Stop other people entering the building if it is safe to do so

Safeguarding monthly focus – Parental controls

Whether you're puzzled by parental controls or would like to know more about gaming, the website links below are a really good source of information for parents. We all know that it can sometimes be challenging to keep up to speed with what children and young people are doing online. Childnet International provide useful ways to keep your child safe.

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/parental-controls>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>

Parental controls are designed to help protect children from inappropriate content they may come across online, such as pornography. These controls can be used to limit access to only age-appropriate content, to set usage times and to monitor activity.

There are four main places you can find parental controls, and it can help to set up a combination of these:

- **Internet provider:** you can set up filters to help block access to inappropriate content on any device that connects to your home WiFi
- **Mobile operator:** filters are often automatically set up on mobile contracts, but you can double-check with your provider
- **Devices:** many devices have parental control settings, for example, to help restrict spending in apps or disable location functions
- **Online services:** sites like BBC iPlayer and YouTube have parental control settings to help restrict access to inappropriate content

There is also a growing concern nationally in regards to the amount of time spent on electronic devices at bed time. Statistics show that 75% of children sleep with a device in their bedrooms. Increased time spent on devices at bedtime can lead, in some cases, to increases in low mood, increased anxiety levels and a reduction in academic progress due to fatigue. The new app below is designed to give back control to parents.



OurPact

OurPact is a breakthrough parental control app that enables parents to manage their family's screen time through Internet and application blocking. Our parental control solution allows parents to manage their child's screen time by blocking specific apps, blocking texts, and scheduling screen time according to a child's daily routine.

<http://ourpact.com/>

Please see below a reminder of the apps to look out for when monitoring the internet use of your son/daughter. I would encourage all parents to be valiant and report concerns to CEOP in regards to the following apps;

Roblox is a user-generated massively multiplayer online social gaming platform, dubbed the 'new Minecraft'. In the game, players are able to create their own virtual worlds within the platform, and invite others to join. Activities in the game world include exploring, crafting items, resource gathering, and combat. The game can be played on mobiles, tablets and computers.

A recently added chat facility on the site means strangers can message young players directly and chat to them, with no age verification

AMINO - COMMUNITIES, CHAT, FORUMS, AND GROUPS is an app that lets users access and contribute to communities about a range of subjects, including bands, books, genres, and activities. ... When you tap a community, you can view its description, community guidelines, and the number of registered users in that group.

Like many apps there are risks involved for children as there is a chat facility and obviously would be an ideal platform for grooming to take place.

MovieStarPlanet is an online game with a social networking aspect, which is popular with 8-13 year olds. The game allows children to customise a movie star character and explore a virtual world with a movie star theme. Children are able to make animated films, design art books and play online games. The social networking aspect of the game allows users to use chat rooms to make contact with other users. There are a range of safety features and advice available.

In the previous month numerous reports have been noted where adults are contacting children via this app for the purpose of grooming and acquiring indecent images.

There is no minimum age requirement; however the app is aimed at children aged 8-15 years.

Yellow app



The makers of a controversial app, which the NSPCC fears could put children at risk of predators, have told Sky News they are developing tools "to avoid deviant behaviours".

Yellow has been compared to the dating app Tinder, as user's swipe right and left on profiles to connect with strangers. Unlike Tinder, which has a minimum age of 18, Yellow has no age checks.

Under 18s can only speak to other under 18s on the app, but there's no mechanism to stop adults lying about their age and pretending to be children.

How to report to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre CEOP

CEOP works with child protection partners across the UK and overseas to identify the main threats to children and coordinates activity against these threats to bring offenders to account. We protect children from harm online and offline, directly through partnerships with local and international agencies. I have placed a direct reporting link to CEOP (image below to look for on the College website) on our safeguarding pages of the College website.



<https://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/Should-I-make-a-report-to-CEOP-YP/>

Please see below some additional guidance from CEOP in regards to what to report;

1. Someone online was threatening me and made me feel unsafe.
2. Someone online asked me to send them nude images.
3. I shared a nude image with someone online and they threatened me.
4. I was worried someone I was talking to online was dodgy.
5. I did something that I was embarrassed about on webcam and then I felt really worried.
6. Someone online kept asking me to meet them face-to-face, and I didn't want to.
7. Someone online was talking to me about sex and made me feel uncomfortable.
8. Someone online put pressure on me to do things I didn't want to do.
9. Someone I met online was sending me pornography and making me feel uncomfortable.
10. Someone I met in an online game kept trying to talk to me privately.



Reporting safeguarding concerns

If you have concerns about terrorism you must call your concern through to:

- Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321
- Crime stoppers: **0800 555 111**
- (South West) Police **101**

Dan Vile, Designated Safeguarding Lead & Prevent coordinator;

College number – 01364 652230 dvile@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk

Parents are, as always, asked to report safeguarding concerns to the College so that we can provide support and guidance and, where necessary, access external agency support, with the aim of keeping the young person safe from harm. Safeguarding concerns can be reported to your son/daughter's Performance Leader or directly to me as the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

May I remind all parents that the College has a reporting button on the College website which enables students and parents to report concerns to the College anonymously? We do encourage parents and students to use the report button to give specific details of the event to facilitate a faster resolution. The "report an issue button" is situated on the right hand side of the College home page above the upcoming events tab and is also linked within the Child Protection and Safeguarding page.



Please may I remind parents that the report button can also be used to raise concerns regarding bus travel to and from College? The information provided will be used to enforce the Local Authority's 'code of conduct'.



South Dartmoor Community College

Head of School | Paul Collins

Balland Lane, Ashburton, Devon, TQ13 7EW
Tel | (01364) 652230 Fax | (01364) 654069
Website | www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk
Email | enquiries@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk

If you have any safeguarding concerns during the holidays, and you need support, you are advised to speak to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). To find out more about the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) please visit; www.devon.gov.uk/childprotection.

If you are concerned about a child or young person in Devon, and want to speak to someone, contact the MASH on **0345 155 1071** and give as much information as you can. **Please see MASH information poster below.**

Parents can also access confidential support and advice through, Child line 0800 1111

If you have any safeguarding questions in regards to the links included in the newsletter, or have questions about our safeguarding procedures at South Dartmoor, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Email: dvile@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk Phone: 01364 652230

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Vile".

Dan Vile

Designated Safeguarding Lead



South Dartmoor Community College

Head of School | Paul Collins

Balland Lane, Ashburton, Devon, TQ13 7EW
Tel | (01364) 652230 Fax | (01364) 654069
Website | www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk
Email | enquiries@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk



For Early Help, Consultation and Enquiries please contact:

Telephone: **0345 155 1071**

E-mail: **mashsecure@devon.gcsx.gov.uk**

Fax: 01392 448951

Enquiry Form available at:

www.devon.gov.uk/mash-enquiryform.doc

Post: **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, P.O. Box 723, Exeter EX1 9QS**

Emergency Duty Team – out of hours

0845 6000 388

Police – non emergency – 101

For all LADO enquiries Exeter (01392) 384964

Or

<http://www.devon.gov.uk/lado>